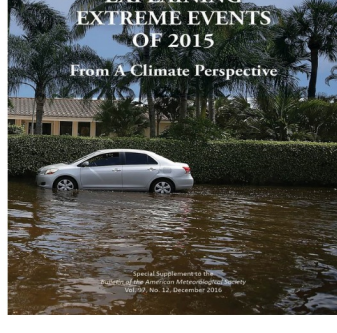


Promoting Climate-Informed Decisions Since 2014.

## Adaptation Resources for Agriculture

The long awaited, easy to use, Climate Adaptation Workbook is published! Responding to Climate Variability and Change in the Midwest and Northeast is facilitated through this collection of perspectives, information and resources. This adaptation workbook offers a “flexible, structured process to identify and assess climate change impacts, challenges, opportunities, and farm-level adaptation tactics...for improving responses to extreme and uncertain conditions.” Short- and long-term practices, as well as small to major alterations for transforming farm operations are presented as well as example plans of these adaptation practices: A ‘How to’ guide for putting climate change information into action.



## Explaining Extreme Events from a Climate Perspective

This BAMS special report presents assessments of how climate change may have affected the strength and likelihood of individual extreme events. This fifth edition of explaining extreme events of the previous year (2015) from a climate perspective continues to provide evidence that climate change is altering some extreme event risk.

## The Fiscal Risks Facing the Federal Government

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recently embarked on an effort to assess what we can quantify today with regard to the fiscal risks posed by climate change for the Federal Government. President Obama has said the Budget is “a roadmap to a future that embodies America’s values and aspirations.” Building and stewarding such a Budget over the long term requires a clear-eyed view of the challenges that put our aspirations at risk. No challenge poses a greater threat to future generations than climate change. For more information, please select the following links:

- Climate Action is a Matter of Fiscal Responsibility
- Climate Change: The Fiscal Risks Facing the Federal Government, A Preliminary Assessment

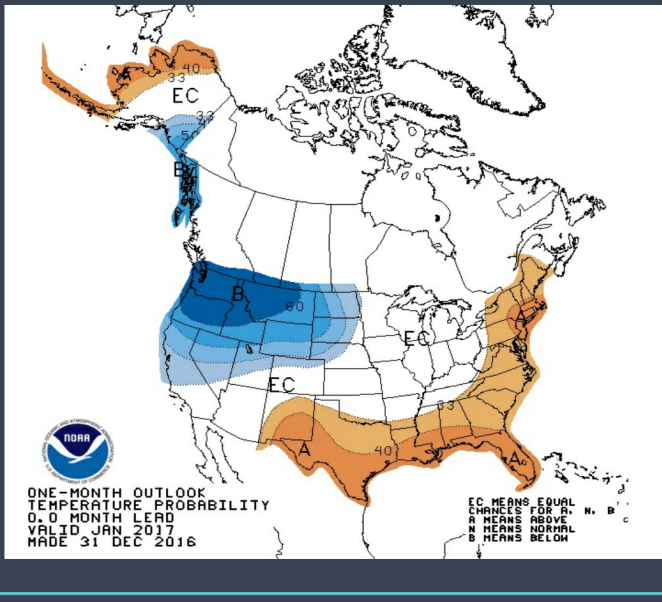
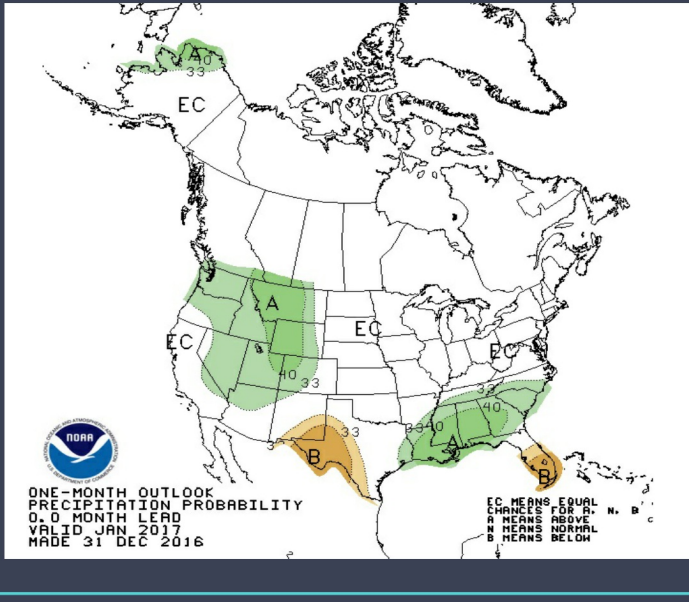
## CHU in Every Issue...

## A Midwest Focus Climate Update: January 2017

The updated NOAA 30 day outlook for January does not provide too many specifics for the month over much of the Midwest. Equal chances (EC) for below or above average temperatures are indicated for the Midwestern states. Colder than average temperatures are slightly more likely further in to the northern plains based on this outlook (<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>).

La Niña is still partially influencing the outlook with colder than average Pacific Equatorial SSTs. Those colder than average SSTs are projected to decrease leading the outlook for La Niña to gradually decline throughout the winter reducing its influence throughout the Northern Plains and Midwest...

For more information and for the complete January Outlook, visit <https://www.climatehubs.ocs.usda.gov/content/midwest-focus-climate-update-january-2017>



## Regional Outlook for the Midwest

In collaboration with NOAA and the Midwest Regional Climate Center, we are pleased to provide the following Regional Outlooks for Winter 2016. The Midwest, Missouri Basin, and Great Lakes regional outlooks can be accessed by clicking on their titles to the right.

- Missouri River Basin Outlook
- Great Lakes Outlook
- Midwest Outlook

## Meet the Midwest Climate Hub: Erica Kistner, PhD Fellow



Meet Erica Kistner, the Midwest Climate Hub Fellow: Originally from Maple Valley, WA, Erica finished her PhD at the University Of Notre Dame and has conducted research in Montana and California. In California, Erica worked closely with citrus growers to develop sustainable pest management practices and found it very rewarding. This fortified her passion for research and working with extension. A USDA position, she determined, would be an ideal fit for her skill set, fervor and future career goals. As a climate hub fellow, she is gaining experience needed for a successful career in the USDA and has the creative freedom to pursue new research and partnerships.

Erica, who is recently engaged, is the proud parent of two adorable Fischer’s lovebirds, Bub and Bob. When not working, Erica enjoys hiking, bird watching, reading, and playing video games (Pokémon and Kingdom Hearts especially).

“I take my work seriously, but not myself.”  
-Erica Kistner

## USDA Climate Hub Blog Updates

Northern Plains Regional Climate Hub: Developing Regional Efforts

The USDA Northern Plains Regional Climate Hub (NPRCH) partnered with the 1914 Cooperative Extension programs in Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, North and South Dakota, and Nebraska to develop and deliver science-based, region specific information and technologies to agricultural...

Extending Climate Science: Can we learn from the Midwest extension lessons?

Climate change is now being referred to as a “Super Wicked Problem”- a sticky wicket, a quagmire, a quandary- in other words, climate change is a complex social-ecological problem. Because climate change is such a difficult problem to solve, it is critical...

New and Improved Tools Help Adapt Forests to Changing Conditions

Changes in climate and extreme weather are already increasing challenges for forest ecosystems across the world. Many impacts are expected to remain into the future. This means forest managers, conservationists and woodland owners continually need to...

Interactive Online Resource to Learn about Climate Change Adaptation

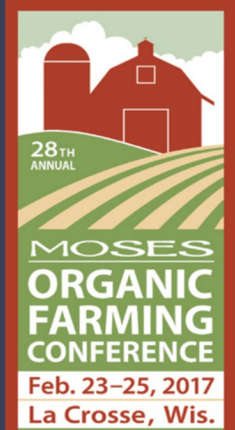
The Climate Change Resource Center (CCRC) has recently released a new education resource on climate change adaptation responses to help the USDA Forest Service, USDA Climate Hubs, other agencies, and the general public learn more about responding to a changing climate.

For More on USDA Climate Hub Blogs, click [HERE](#).

## On the Radar...

MOSES Organic Farming Conference and Workshop

February 23, 2017 – February 25, 2017: the largest event in the U.S. about organic and sustainable farming, offering 65 workshops over 6 sessions, inspiring keynotes, engaging Roundtables, and a resource-packed Exhibit Hall with over 170 vendors.



## Additional Resources

## Useful to Usable

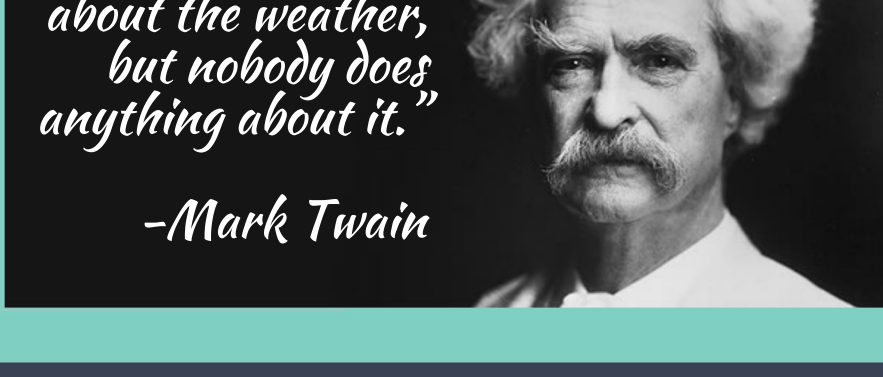
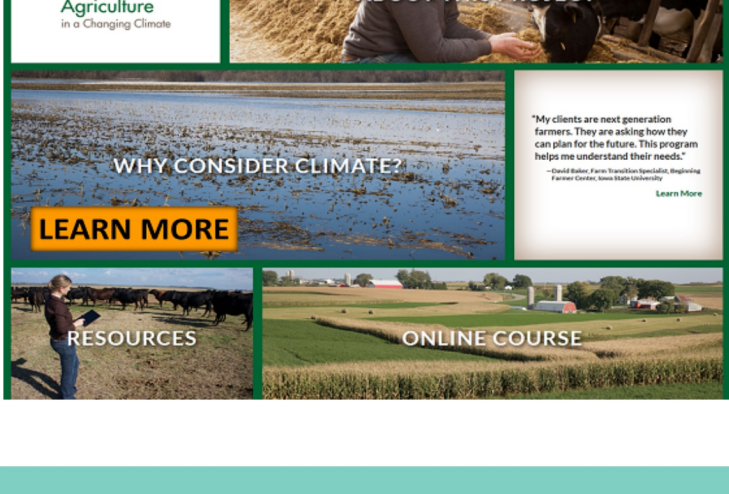
Helping producers make better long-term plans: Weather and climate patterns are a driving force behind the success or failure of Corn Belt cropping systems. Useful to Usable (U2U) is an integrated research and extension project working to improve farm resilience and profitability in the North Central U.S. by transforming existing climate data into usable products for the agricultural community. Our goal is to help producers make better long-term plans on what, when and where to plant, and also how to manage crops for maximum yields and minimum environmental damage.

## Corn-Based Systems

Sustainable Corn is a USDA and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) funded project that has gathered data from 35 field sites and thousands of farmers in 9 Midwestern states, with the goal of creating a suite of practices for corn-based systems that: Retain and enhance soil organic matter and nutrient and carbon stocks; Reduce off-field nitrogen losses that contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and water pollution; Buffer withstand droughts and floods; Ensure productivity under different climatic conditions. Working with farmers, teachers and students to connect them with project analyses and promote collaborative learning.

## Livestock

Animal Agriculture in a Changing Climate is a project supported by a grant from USDA and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). The project aims to provide animal producers, extension specialists and other animal agriculture professionals with research and science-based information about the impacts of climate change on animal agriculture as mitigation strategies for adapting to and planning for climate change effects.



To remove your name from my mailing list, please email [midwestclimatehub@ars.usda.gov](mailto:midwestclimatehub@ars.usda.gov). Questions or comments? E-mail us at [midwestclimatehub@ars.usda.gov](mailto:midwestclimatehub@ars.usda.gov) or call 515-294-0136.